

EVERY ITEM  
GUARANTEED TO  
MAKE YOU WISER  
OR MERRIER

# New York Tribune

First to Last—For Children—Fun, Facts and Fancies

WEATHER  
Jack Frost will  
paint leaves and  
apples red, purple  
the grapes and open  
chestnut burrs.

## Columbus Caravels Drop Anchor

By GEORGE F. PAUL

**T**HE Santa Maria II is a copy of the original Santa Maria that made the eventful voyage in 1492 as the flagship of the Columbus fleet of three vessels. She recently completed a voyage from Prince Edward's Island to Chicago and showed that she was seaworthy in a gale of thirty miles an hour. Several years ago, when the San Francisco Exposition was being planned, the Santa Maria II started from her anchorage in Chicago, the intention being for her to proceed leisurely to San Francisco. The stanch old vessel was making her way down the Atlantic coast when the European war broke out. As it was doubtful that the exposition would be held, it was decided to proceed no further with the historic vessel. For months she lay in harbor at Prince Edward's Island until funds were supplied to bring her back to Jackson Park, in Chicago, where she now rides at anchor.

This vessel has a unique history. She was launched at Cadiz, Spain, on June 26, 1892. Naval architects spent several months in careful research work so as to make her an exact duplicate of the original flagship of Columbus. The first appearance of the Santa Maria II with her sister ships, the Nina and Pinta, before the Spanish people occurred at Huelva, Spain, October 10 to 14, 1892, at the time of the Spanish festivities in honor of the 400th anniversary of the discovery of the New World. Four months later the three vessels of the new fleet started for America. The Santa Maria II crossed the Atlantic under her own sail, commanded by Captain Victor M. Concas, of the Spanish navy. She was manned by Spanish sailors and convoyed by a Spanish man-of-war. The other vessels were towed.

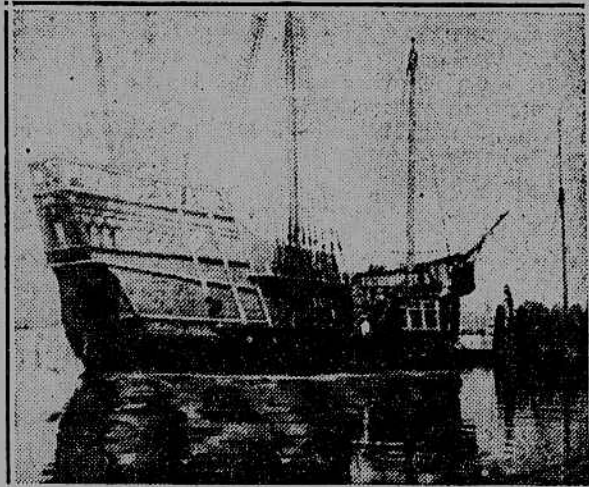
The boats followed the course of Columbus in the fifteenth century, stopping at the original landing place of Columbus. On a bright sunny morning in April, 1893, the three boats, manned throughout by Spanish crews, entered the harbor at Hampton Roads, Virginia, and were welcomed by a roar from the guns of the navies of the world. Later, in the North River, New York, they took part in a grand naval review and peace jubilee celebration. In saluting President Cleveland the pop-gun-like reports of the small guns on the Columbus boats were in decided contrast to the roar of the guns on the modern battleships. The welcome given the caravels at the Columbian world's fair grounds, Chicago, in May, 1893, was a fitting climax to an eventful

cruise of over 9,000 miles by the most wonderful craft afloat.

The greatest historical object on board the Santa Maria II is the old anchor, which was lost at the time of the wrecking of the original Santa Maria off the coast of Hayti on Christmas eve, 1492. It was recovered after it had been buried in the sand nearly 400 years. Spain sent it to the world's fair. It was hand made in Madrid, Spain, in 1450, and originally weighed 2,300 pounds, but lost much of its weight through rust and exposure.

Then there are cannon of the kind that occupied commanding positions on the fleet during the first voyage. The larger cannon were merely lashed by a stout rope to a wooden block. They were muzzle-loading and fired from a touchhole. Stone cannon balls were used.

One of the most important rooms on board the flagship was the prison. This was in the hold of the boat, at the extreme stern. It was very dark and had no furni-



ture. The crew of 1492 was made up mostly of released Spanish life convicts, impressed into service for the cruise, with a promise of pardon if they returned. There were also many pirates and adventurers. The ship's prison was seldom empty, but, on the other hand, was usually crowded. The prisoners were chained to the floor, and thus the iron bars needed to be very strong.

These three historic boats need not feel very lonely in Chicago, for within a stone's throw of them rises a reproduction of the famous old monastery near Palos, Spain, the Santa Maria de la Rabida. It was at this monastery that Columbus found the friends whose steadfast help and influence made it possible for him to give a new continent to the world and make his name stand for daring and doing.